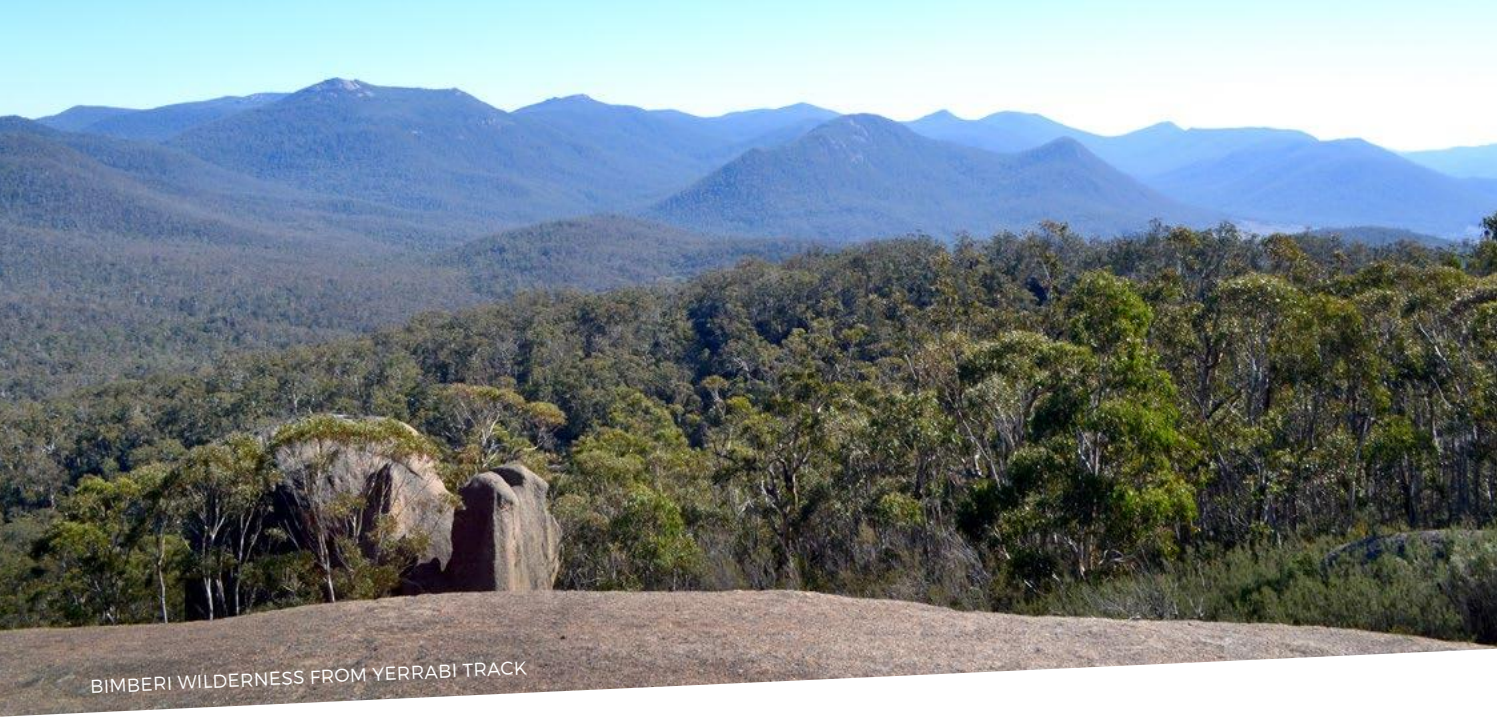
NGUNNAWAL PEOPLE
WELCOME YOU TO

NAMADGI NATIONAL PARK

A BRIEF GUIDE

Namadgi

ACT Government



BIMBERI WILDERNESS FROM YERRABI TRACK

The ACT's National Park

Named after the Aboriginal word for the ranges in the south-west of the ACT, Namadgi National Park was declared in 1984 and covers 106,095 hectares.

There are many reasons to visit Namadgi, including:

- the highest peak in the ACT—Bimberi Peak is 1911m
- beautiful campgrounds and picnic areas
- remote wilderness experiences
- over twenty recommended tracks and trails
- a wide range of natural environments
- an abundance of native wildlife
- Aboriginal and European cultural heritage sites
- all within a 20 to 60-minute drive from Canberra

The Australian Alps National Parks

Namadgi National Park is at the northern-most end of the Australian Alps. Alpine environments are rare in Australia, covering a tiny 0.15% of the continent. Park agencies in New South Wales, Victoria, the Australian Capital Territory and the Commonwealth Government work together under the Australian Alps national parks banner to manage 1.6 million hectares of the alpine region in recognition of its significance as a single biogeographical region.

Website: theaustralianalps.wordpress.com

Bimberi Wilderness

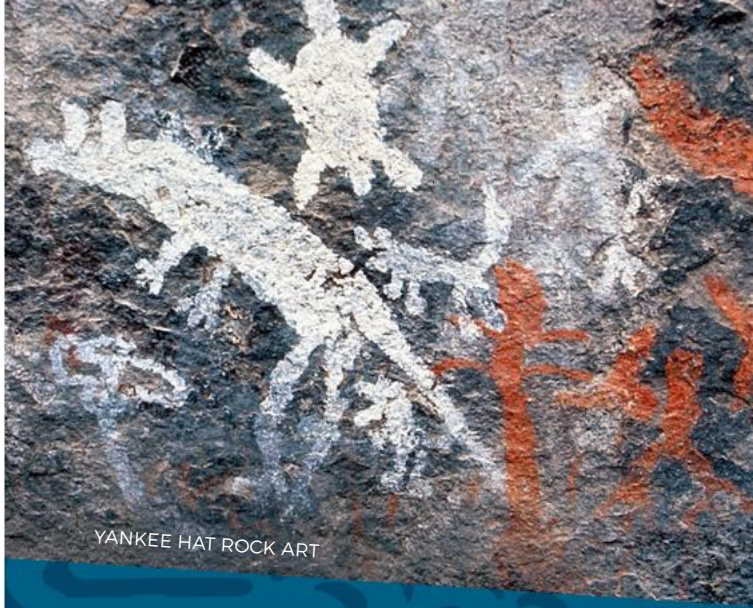
The Bimberi Wilderness comprises the western third of Namadgi National Park (28,900 ha) and an adjoining area in New South Wales. It includes some of the most beautiful scenery in the Alps. You can easily view this rugged area from Hospital Hill Lookout on Boboyan Road, Mount Ginini, Mount Franklin Road or from the Yerrabi Walking Track. The Bimberi wilderness can be accessed on foot from the Mount Ginini car park and the Orroral Valley. Camping permits apply.

Wild Things

Habitats range from broad, grassy plains in the valleys, Alpine Ash forests on the slopes, to snow gum woodlands and subalpine meadows on the mountain peaks. Within a short distance vegetation and wildlife can change dramatically. Namadgi also has a special type of wetland called a fen which consists mainly of sedges. Nursery Swamp is the most well-known fen in the park. The park also features unique sub-alpine sphagnum bog ecosystems which can be seen on the Mount Gingera walk. The Ginini Wetlands has been listed as a Ramsar site, (a site of international significance) as it provides habitat for Latham's Snipe, an international migratory bird, and the Northern Corroboree Frog.

Mountains of Water

Catchments in Namadgi National Park supply up to 95% of Canberra's and Queanbeyan's water. Water that falls on the mountains is filtered and purified as it passes through sphagnum moss bogs, forests, woodlands and grasslands into our dams.



YANKEE HAT ROCK ART

Namadgi and People

Aboriginal Australians have had a long association with Namadgi. As traditional custodians, the Ngunnawal people have obligations to both their ancestors and descendants to participate in the management of their Country, particularly at sites of significance such as Yankee Hat art site. Ngunnawal people welcome others onto their traditional lands and ask that visitors be aware of, respect and acknowledge Ngunnawal cultural traditions, laws and customs. There are many Aboriginal heritage sites in Namadgi including rock art, stone tools, quarry sites, stone arrangements and campsites—reminders of the traditional Aboriginal lifestyle that still retains meaning.

You will also discover reminders of European history at Namadgi including the pastoral era, ski clubs, forestry and even the space industry at the former space tracking sites at Honeysuckle and Orroral.

Picnicking

There are many picnic areas in and near the park. Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve also has picnic facilities. All picnic areas have tables and toilets. Please do not feed the wildlife and take your rubbish home.

Camping

There are three designated campgrounds in Namadgi National Park: Orroral, Honeysuckle and Mount Clear. You can also camp at Woods Reserve, Blue Range and the Cotter which are close to the park. Bookings are essential, except at the Cotter campground where an honesty box system applies.

Book online: environment.act.gov.au/parks-conservation/parks-and-reserves/accommodation

Phone Access Canberra: **13 22 81**

Honeysuckle campground is suitable for small to larger groups and features a few spaces for campervans and trailers.

Orroral campground provides a bush setting for camping, caravans and trailers.

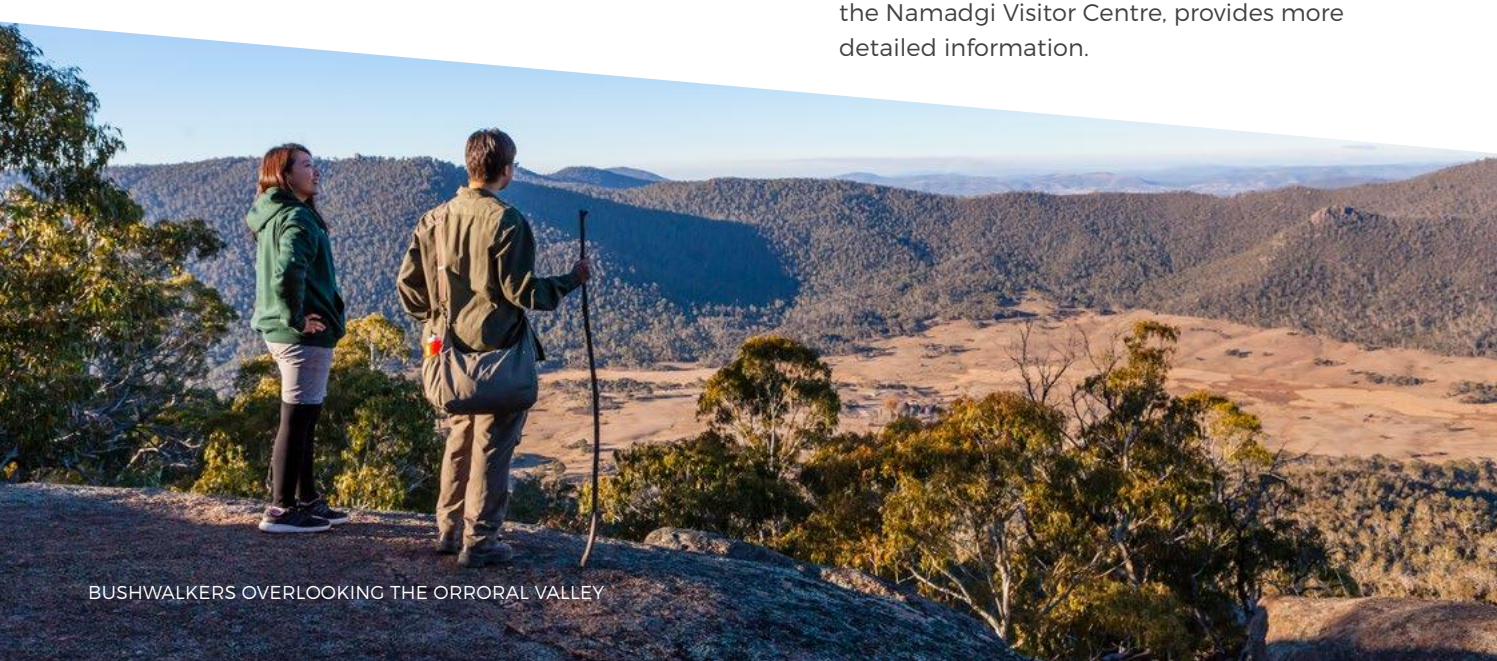
Mount Clear campground is the most remote campsite with very basic facilities and is accessed via an unsealed road. Not suitable for camper trailers.

Camping is prohibited in the lower and middle portions of the **Cotter Catchment** and allowed by permit in the upper catchment.

No permit is needed for pack-based camping outside the catchment.

Bushwalking

Much of Namadgi's beauty lies beyond its main roads and picnic areas and walking is the most popular way to explore. There are over 170 kilometres of marked walking tracks. The **Namadgi Map and Guide**, available from the Namadgi Visitor Centre, provides more detailed information.



BUSHWALKERS OVERLOOKING THE ORRORAL VALLEY

Walking Off Marked Tracks

Well prepared walkers who venture into remote parts of Namadgi reap some of the park's greatest rewards. All remote area walkers should record the details of their trip in the bushwalking registers located in the park (see Namadgi Map and Guide for their locations) and ensure a family member or friend also have the details of their trip. Walking off marked tracks requires expertise with a map and compass, and, as the weather can change unexpectedly at any time of year, warm and waterproof clothing. It is recommended that remote area walkers also carry a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB). These are available for hire from the Namadgi Visitor Centre.

MOUNTAIN BIKERS AT MOUNT FRANKLIN SHELTER

Mountain Biking

There are several hundred kilometres of scenic mountain roads to explore. Cycling is permitted on formed management roads within the park, except those in the Upper Cotter Catchment/ Bimberi Wilderness south of Mount Ginini car park and west of Orroral Valley. Bicycles are not permitted on walking tracks or off formed management roads.

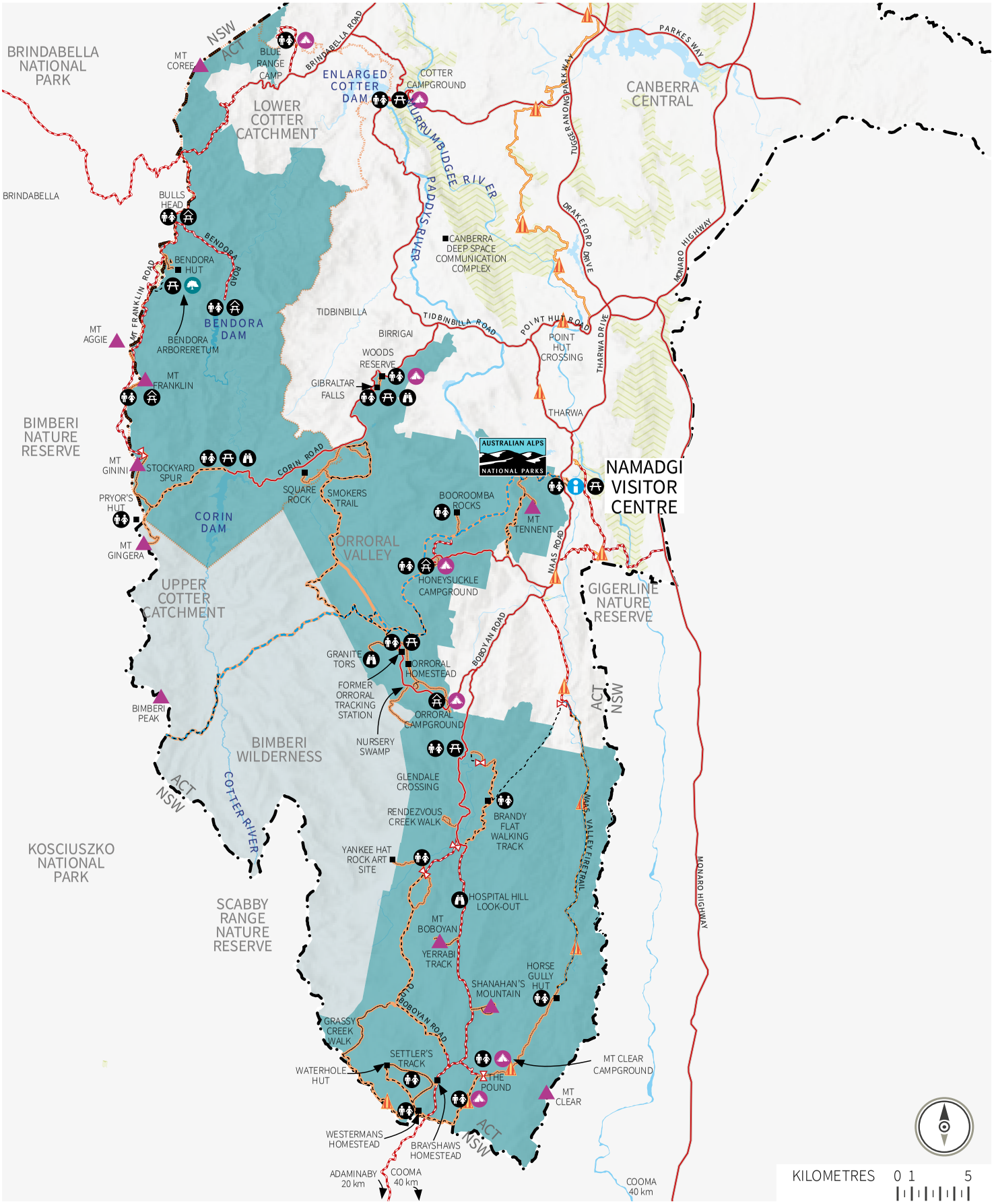
Enjoying the Snow

Snow can fall over any part of the park but is most common on the Bimberi and Brindabella ranges. Brindabella Range is popular for snow play, if conditions allow, however Mount Franklin, Brindabella and Boboyan roads can become hazardous in winter and will be closed if considered unsafe. Phone reception is minimal throughout the park and help may not always be available. Chains may be required. It is recommended that you contact the Namadgi Visitor Centre for snow information and road conditions before venturing into the park during winter.

WESTEMAN'S HOMESTEAD ON SETTLERS TRACK

Scenic Driving and Motorised Biking

Public roads within the park pass through majestic mountain country, providing access to nature for everyone. The unsealed roads are narrow and can be slippery when wet or frosty. Roads may be closed due to snow, floods and Total Fire Bans (TOBAN). Petrol is available in Canberra, Tharwa and Adaminaby, but not in the park. Registered trail bike riding is not allowed off public roads in the park or past locked gates.



LEGEND

- NAMADGI NATIONAL PARK
- BIMBERI WILDERNESS - PERMIT CAMPING ONLY
- COTTER CATCHMENT - NO CAMPING
- SEALED ROAD
- UNSEALED ROAD
- BICENTENNIAL NATIONAL TRAIL
- AUSTRALIAN ALPS WALKING TRACK
- WALKING TRACK
- LOCKED GATE
- VISITOR CENTRE
- CAMPGROUND (FEES APPLY)
- PICNIC AREA
- TOILETS
- LOOKOUT

Fishing

There are excellent fishing opportunities within Namadgi although some areas are closed to fishing. Fishing is not allowed in prohibited waters. These include: the Cotter River and Cotter Catchment upstream of Bendora Dam wall (including Bendora and Corin dams); the Cotter River and reservoir above the Enlarged Cotter Dam wall up to the junction with Condor Creek; and the Orroral River upstream of the Honeysuckle to Orroral management road. All other streams in Namadgi are trout waters and are subject to an open season, gear/bait restrictions and size/bag limits. Several threatened fish species occur in Namadgi National Park. These are protected at all times and cannot be taken. Pick up a Recreational Fishing in the ACT brochure from the Namadgi Visitor Centre. Detailed regulations in the ACT Fisheries Act are available from local tackle shops, fishing clubs, the Namadgi Visitor Centre and the website: environment.act.gov.au.

SNOW GUM WOODLAND, STOCKYARD SPUR WALKING TRACK

Horse Riding

Horse riding is permitted on management roads east of and including the Old Boboyan Road. The Bicentennial National Trail passes through Namadgi National Park on the Naas Valley management road. Before riding, contact the Namadgi Visitor Centre for information and to arrange access and use of yards and camping area at the Mount Clear Pound.

CORIN DAM

Facilities Guide

	Flushing Toilets	Composting/ pit Toilets	Showers
CAMPGROUNDS			
Honeysuckle		♿	
Orroral		♿	
Mt Clear		•	
Woods Reserve	♿		•
PICNIC AREAS			
Bulls Head		♿	
Bendora Dam	•		
Corin Dam	•		
Orroral Former Tracking Station		♿	
Orroral River	•		
Glendale	•		
Gibraltar Falls		•	
Woods Reserve		•	

Generators are not permitted at campgrounds. Dogs are allowed at Woods Reserve, Blue Range and Murrays Corner as these areas are not in Namadgi National Park. Refer to the 'Murrumbidgee Corridor Map and Guide' for a detailed list of picnic area facilities for the Cotter Precinct.

	Shelter	Gas BBQ's	Wood BBQ's (BYO wood)	Water Available (treat/boil)	Campervan Sites (no electricity)	Tent Sites
CAMPGROUNDS						
Honeysuckle	•	•	•	•	•	•
Orroral	•	•	•	•	•	•
Mt Clear			•	•		•
Woods Reserve	•	•	•	•	•	•
PICNIC AREAS						
Bulls Head	•		•	•		
Bendora Dam			•	•		
Corin Dam		•		•		
Orroral Former Tracking Station	•	•		•		
Orroral River			•	•		
Glendale			•	•		
Gibraltar Falls		•				
Woods Reserve	•	•		•		

Advance bookings apply to all campgrounds except for the Cotter campground. Fees apply. No wood is supplied for fireplaces. Please bring your own wood. Dogs must be on a lead at all times.

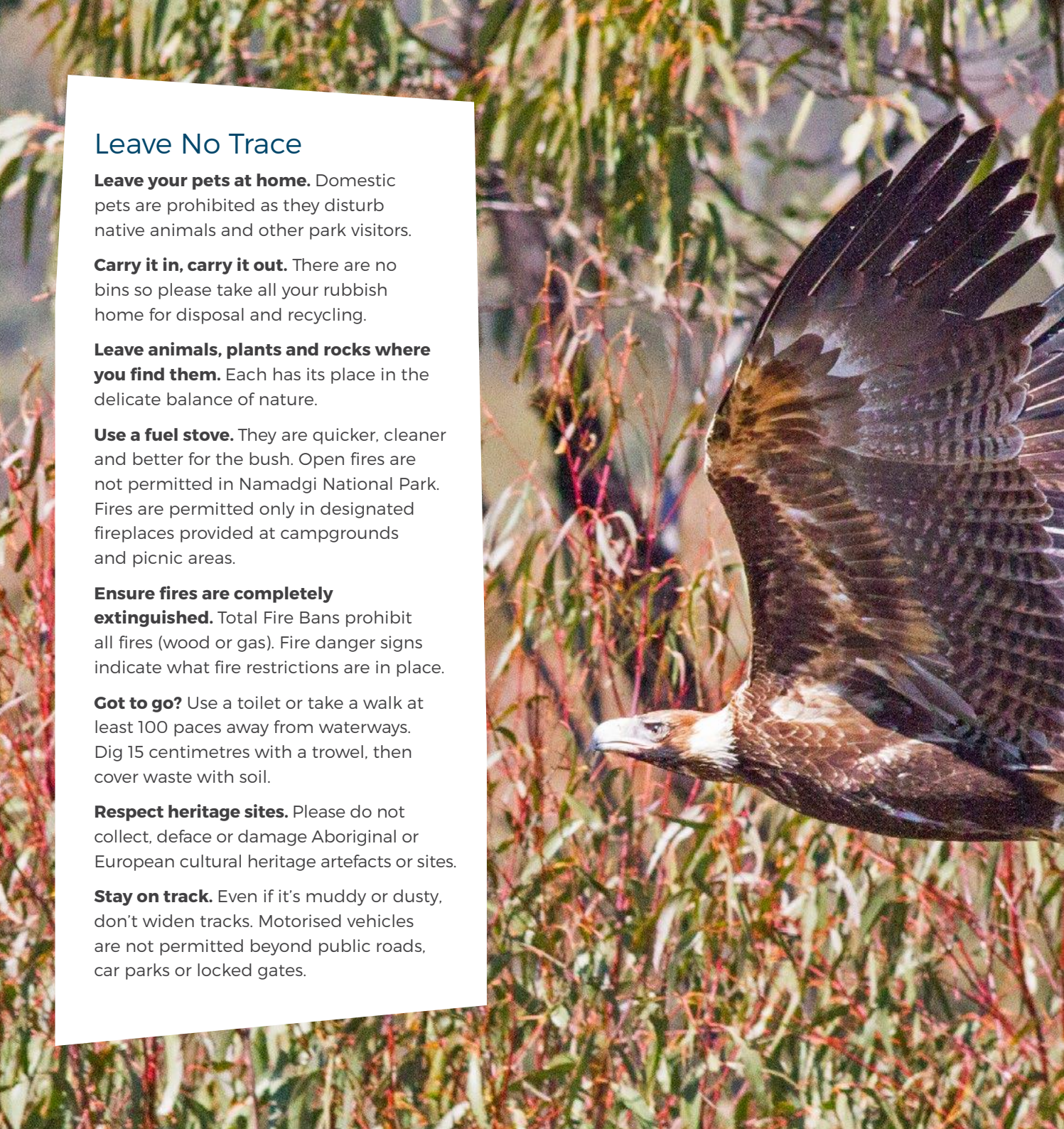
BOOROOMBA ROCKS

Safety in the Mountains

- The weather can change suddenly and dramatically. Be prepared for freezing conditions and a longer stay than planned.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you are expected back. Enter details in the walks register.
- Plan ahead and ensure you have suitable equipment and gear—cold and wet weather clothing, repair gear, PLB and a first aid kit (including snake bandage).
- Road conditions can be hazardous. Drive carefully.

Fire

- Please protect Namadgi's sensitive environment by observing all fire regulations and obeying fire danger signs. All fires in the ACT, including campfires, are regulated by law.
- No fires are allowed in the Cotter Catchment area of the park. However, fuel stoves may be used.
- Fires are only permitted in officially constructed fireplaces located in campgrounds and picnic areas. Firewood is not provided, so please bring your own. Collection of standing or fallen timber from all public lands, including roadsides, is illegal and environmentally damaging as it removes important habitat. Please consider gas or fuel stoves as an alternative to campfires.
- Total Fire Bans (TOBAN) prohibit all fires including fuel stoves and gas barbecues. Fire danger signs indicate what fire restrictions are in place. Installed barbecues are turned off during TOBAN's.
- Supervise fires and extinguish them when you leave.



Leave No Trace

Leave your pets at home. Domestic pets are prohibited as they disturb native animals and other park visitors.

Carry it in, carry it out. There are no bins so please take all your rubbish home for disposal and recycling.

Leave animals, plants and rocks where you find them. Each has its place in the delicate balance of nature.

Use a fuel stove. They are quicker, cleaner and better for the bush. Open fires are not permitted in Namadgi National Park. Fires are permitted only in designated fireplaces provided at campgrounds and picnic areas.

Ensure fires are completely extinguished. Total Fire Bans prohibit all fires (wood or gas). Fire danger signs indicate what fire restrictions are in place.

Got to go? Use a toilet or take a walk at least 100 paces away from waterways. Dig 15 centimetres with a trowel, then cover waste with soil.

Respect heritage sites. Please do not collect, deface or damage Aboriginal or European cultural heritage artefacts or sites.

Stay on track. Even if it's muddy or dusty, don't widen tracks. Motorised vehicles are not permitted beyond public roads, car parks or locked gates.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Namadgi National Park Visitor Centre
Naas Road, Tharwa, ACT 2620
T: **02 6237 5307**

environment.act.gov.au